

# Economic News from Ohio's Regions

Brought to you by The Ohio Urban University Program  
The Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs, Cleveland State University

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## Weekly News and Opinion from Ohio's Newspapers October 14 - 20, 2008

### Greetings!

Welcome to the latest issue of *Economic News from Ohio's Regions*, a new weekly newsletter from the [Ohio Urban University Program](#) and the [Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs, Cleveland State University](#). We'll search Ohio's papers to bring you economic news and key happenings that impact Ohio's regions.

### News From Around Ohio

**[Ohio Unemployment Down in September](#)** (Akron Beacon Journal, October 18, 2008) The state had an unemployment rate of 7.2 percent last month, compared to 7.4 percent in August, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services said in a report Friday. Ohio's unemployment rate was 5.7 percent in September 2007.

**[Owens Programs Respond to Local Job Market](#)** (Bowling Green Sentinel-Tribune, October 16, 2008) Owens Community College has several new academic programs under consideration based on the needs of the local labor market. From alternative fuel technology to commercial photography, Owens is looking at adding 14 degree programs or certificates through Fall 2010.

**[Editorial: Structurally Unsound](#)** (Akron Beacon Journal, October 17, 2008) Ohio has long suffered from a cumbersome, fragmented system of public education. Besides his pledge to deal with school funding, the governor correctly sees the need for structural change.

**[Partnership to revitalize 6 Cleveland neighborhoods hit by foreclosures](#)** (The Plain Dealer, October 17, 2008) An extensive public and private partnership will soon launch a \$20 million, three-year effort aimed at revitalizing sections of six Cleveland neighborhoods damaged by the foreclosure crisis. The program, called Opportunity Homes, has a goal of rehabilitating 150 houses, demolishing 300

more and helping 300 homeowners avoid foreclosure.

**[Editorial: In Levy Defeats, Region May be Reborn](#)**

(Akron Beacon Journal, October 16, 2008) Results from the Nov. 4 general election are not likely to be kind to local governments and school districts with tax issues on the ballot. They are already being squeezed by rising costs and tight revenues, with little help from Columbus and Washington.

**[More New Markets Money Headed to Cincinnati](#)**

(Cincinnati Business Courier, October 20, 2008) The Cincinnati Center City Development Corp. has won its second allotment of federal New Markets Tax Credits, providing \$35 million that can be used to offer low-interest financing for real estate projects in Over-the-Rhine and downtown.

**[State Kicks in Tax Help to Redevelopers of Historic Buildings](#)**

(Columbus Dispatch October 20, 2008) The Ohio Department of Development handed out 48 tax credits last week to redevelop historic buildings across the state. The Historic Preservation Tax Credits are worth \$77 million.

**[Ohio educators: Economy makes levies a tough sell](#)**

(The News Messenger, October 20, 2008) Ohio educators accustomed to the difficulty of passing school funding issues say economic turmoil during this election is making levies and bond issues an even tougher sell than usual. Voters in about one-third of the state's school districts will decide 266 school levies, bond issues and tax changes on Nov. 4.

**[OU Commits Millions to Plan for Reducing Carbon Emissions](#)**

(The Post, October 20, 2008) Nine days after announcing a university-wide hiring freeze, Ohio University pledged \$35 million to a 15-year sustainability plan - a decision praised by sustainability activists nationwide.

**[Economy May Keep Collegians in Ohio](#)**

(Dayton Daily News, October 16, 2008) The nation's economic crisis presents an opportunity for Ohio higher education, said Eric D. Fingerhut on Thursday, Oct. 16, to nearly 200 regional educators and policy makers at Sinclair Community College.

**[Medical Education, Research Focus of New Partnership](#)**

(Akron Beacon Journal, October 15, 2008) The new BioInnovation Institute in Akron is a

partnership among the University of Akron, Northeastern Ohio Universities Colleges of Medicine and Pharmacy, Akron Children's Hospital and Akron General and Summa health systems.

**[Ohio Arts Council Touring State to Discuss Impact of the Arts](#)** (Chillicothe Gazette, October 18, 2008) The OAC is hitting the road this month and next, and again in the spring, to talk with Ohioans about what they value about the arts, creativity and their communities. "As a good steward of public tax dollars, the Ohio Arts Council wants to discover what communities, large and small, value about creativity and the arts and how the arts can strengthen their community to help us re-envision our role servicing the citizens of Ohio," the OAC material indicates.

***Edited and compiled by: Molly Schnoke, Center for Civic Education, Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs, Cleveland State University***

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